

**REMARKS**

This is in response to the Office Action dated October 31, 2006. Claims 9-12 are pending.

The wrong claims were examined in the Office Action dated October 31, 2006. An Article 34 Amendment amended the PCT of this case to provide claims 9-12 for examination. Thus, claims 9-12 are pending in this national phase of the PCT. Amended pages 39-43 (which include pending claims 9-12) were filed March 17, 2004 in the PCT and were included in the national phase filing with the USPTO on March 25, 2005 in this case. Thus, it is respectfully requested that the Examiner issue a new non-final Office Action in which claims 9-12 are examined.

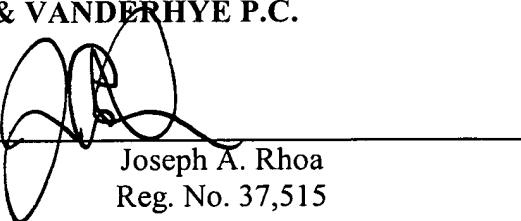
During a telephone interview with the Examiner regarding the above on January 4, 2007, the Examiner agreed to issue a new non-final Office Action in response to this filing, the new non-final Office Action to include an examination of claims 9-12.

If any minor matter remains to be resolved, the Examiner is invited to telephone the undersigned with regard to the same.

Respectfully submitted,

**NIXON & VANDERHYE P.C.**

By:



Joseph A. Rhoa  
Reg. No. 37,515

JAR:caj  
901 North Glebe Road, 11th Floor  
Arlington, VA 22203-1808  
Telephone: (703) 816-4000  
Facsimile: (703) 816-4100